

# GRANITE STATE LIBRARIES

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY



January/February/March 2002

Vol. 38, No. 1

## FROM THE DESK OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN.....

As we head into 2002, as is the custom, I would like to reflect on what we at the N.H. State Library have been doing day-to-day and what we are planning for the future. The year started off with the challenge of replacing our aging automation system. The State Library staff, along with a committee from the New Hampshire library community worked for more than two years to design a system that would meet the current and future needs of the State. Committee members Jennifer Bone, Tom Corbett, Art Bryan, Charles LeBlanc, Mary Russell, Theresa Paré, and Diane Callahan, developed specifications, held demonstrations of products by vendors and worked to involve the library community as much as possible. The request for proposals for the new union catalog was well developed and the responses reflected a serious effort on the part of the vendors to meet our needs. The Committee carefully reviewed the vendors' responses with a critical eye towards getting a system that would serve the libraries of New Hampshire and would grow as needs rise. The Committee analyzed the proposals submitted by vendors to determine which vendor was best able to meet our requirements. The Committee has recommended the State Library contract with Epixtech Corporation for our next statewide union catalog.

In order to pay for the new system we at the State Library decided early on to seek state funding. With the help of a number of librarians and library trustees we were able to make a strong case for a capital appropriation of \$450,000 to purchase a new system. The support of the N.H. Library Association and the individual testimony before the Senate Capital Appropriations Committee by Mary Ann List of Amherst, Dianne Hathaway of Goffstown, and Lisa Riley of Hudson were critical in securing the funds necessary for the project.

In June of 2001, the State hired a full-time Youth Services Consultant, Ann Hoey. Ann has been out in the field working with library directors and children's librarians to provide knowledge and expertise to improve library services for young people. Ann has been a wonderful addition to the library staff; everyone enjoys working with her.

This year has seen a surge in the renovation and new construction of libraries. It is gratifying to have so many dedications and celebrations for libraries. I have attended a number of these events in the last twelve months; it is always enjoyable to see the pride town's people take in seeing a building project through to completion. There are lots more projects in the planning; I look forward to more dedication events celebrating community spirit.

The events of September 11<sup>th</sup> remain on all our minds. The heroic acts of the firefighters, police, emergency medical workers, and soldiers has given all Americans a renewed sense of pride in our country. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of those who lost loved ones as they face the New Year; their lives were dramatically changed by the unspeakable acts in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania. We in the library community will continue giving people all the information they need to make reasoned judgements. The library remains the institution that Americans can turn to for the unbiased, unvarnished truth. I look forward to a good year for the New Hampshire library community as we begin the implementation of our new automation system and improve our services and programs to help libraries in New Hampshire.

This is the first electronic issue of *Granite State Libraries*. We hope you find it convenient to receive the State Library newsletter in this way. We are confident you will continue to find it informative. Publish-

ing *Granite State Libraries* electronically enables us to reduce costs and get it to you faster.

The Staff of the New Hampshire State Library wishes you a healthy and productive New Year.

-Michael York, State Librarian

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### AWARD OF REBECCA LEE SPITZ LIBRARY GRANTS ANNOUNCED

The Saul O Sidore Memorial Foundation, a private non-profit charitable trust located in Bedford, N.H., announces the award of three grants to public libraries in New Hampshire. The semi-annual grants are part of a long-term commitment to providing funding for libraries in towns with fixed resources for limited projects that help to improve the libraries' service to their constituency. Priority is given toward programs that promote and enhance reading.

The grants were awarded to the Conway Public Library, the Madbury Library and the Northumberland Public Library, Groveton. The grant to the Conway Public Library, in the amount of \$3,200, will furnish a new young adults' reading area in the library. The grant to the Madbury Library, in the amount of \$1,200, will allow the purchase of 110 books in specific interest areas for their children's collection. The grant to the Northumberland Public Library, \$1,500, will provide a new computer, with the related telephone line and initial installation of Internet access for use by the Library's patrons.

The grants are named in memory of Rebecca Lee Spitz, a native of Manchester and a trustee of the Foundation who died of cancer at the age of 47. She had earned a masters degree in Library Science, and had worked for several years as a multi-lingual librarian for the city of Haifa, Israel. In addition to being a volunteer at the Hollis Social Library, she also served for a number of years as Treasurer of the Hollis School District.

The first grant in this program was awarded in December, 1995 to the Hollis Social Library. Additional grants since then have gone to thirty-four municipal libraries and two charitable organizations, for a cumulative total of over \$61,000.

Further grants in this program will be considered at the next semi-annual meeting of the Foundation, which will take place in May 2002. For information about the guidelines and the form of application, municipal libraries in New Hampshire need to make written inquiries to: Ralph Sidore, Treasurer, Saul O Si-

dore Memorial Foundation, 24 Gage Road, Bedford, N.H. 03110.

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### CELEBRATING AMERICA'S LIBRARIES SERIES - PETERBOROUGH TOWN LIBRARY

SIRS unveiled a fine print featuring the Peterborough Town Library, Peterborough, N.H., at a luncheon sponsored by SIRS Mandarin, Inc. and the *Freedom to Read Foundation* at the **American Library Association** Conference in San Francisco on June 17, 2001.

SIRS Mandarin raffled off the signed, framed print of the Peterborough Town Library. The winner, Dr. Phyllis D. Fisher, is the Coordinator of Online Services for the New York City School Library located in Brooklyn, N.Y.

In keeping with the belief that free public libraries and schools are cornerstones of America's democracy, SIRS Mandarin initiated a series of fine prints in *Celebrating America's Libraries*.

The first library in the series, the **Library Company of Philadelphia** was unveiled last year at the Pennsylvania Library Association conference. Founded in 1731 by Benjamin Franklin and friends, it was chosen for the series because it was the first lending library in America and is now one of the country's oldest cultural institutions.

SIRS selected the **Peterborough Town Library** to feature as the second print in the series because it was the first tax-supported free public library not only in the United States but the world. The library was established in 1833 by a vote of the town led by Dr. Abiel Abbot, a minister who stirred the community's intellectual life with respect to books and reading. Originally housed in a storefront, the library moved to its final location in 1893, where it remains today. The principle upon which it was founded continues to spread across the civilized globe.

Michael L. Price, the library's director spoke about the library and its history at the unveiling. For more than 20 years, Price has served as librarian for numerous libraries and as the director of the Providence Athenaeum in Rhode Island and Bennington Free Public Library in Vermont prior to his position at the Peterborough Town Library. During the luncheon, Price said, "The significance of the foundation of the Peterborough Town Library rests upon two essential elements, never before jointly called to existence maintenance by public taxation, and control and management by vote of the town."

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## LIBRARY GIFT IMPROVES ACCESS FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED

The N.H. Historical Society's Tuck Library materials are now more accessible for the visually impaired, thanks to the gift of a closed circuit television (CCTV) generously provided by the N.H. Association for the Blind. Easy to use, the machine will magnify a book or manuscript anywhere from four to 40 times. The image appears on a television screen in front of the viewer. With the aid of this device, people with poor vision often are able to read.

Even people with 20/20 vision can benefit from the CCTV. Society Librarian Bill Copeley tested the new machine recently, using it to read a miniature almanac from 1835. He watched in amazement as the tiny script sprang into view on the screen in letters three inches tall. "We've always dreamed about getting such a machine, but it just wasn't within the budget," Copeley said. Valued at about \$2,000, the machine can not only alter the size of the printed letters, but also can vary the contrast of the material by presenting white letters on black background or black letters on a white field.

"People who have low vision are going to need this kind of a machine to make a difference," said Guy Woodland, Vice President for Rehabilitation at the N.H. Association for the Blind. "I couldn't read without it."

Dedicated to advancing the independence of persons who are visually impaired, the N.H. Association for the Blind is a resource for the 40,000 New Hampshire residents living with significant visual loss, a figure expected to double in the next decade as people age. Thanks to a creative community partnership, the Society's Tuck Library is now better equipped to meet the needs of this growing population.

The N.H. Historical Society is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and sharing New Hampshire History through the Museum of New Hampshire History and the Tuck Library, both in Concord. The Tuck Library, at 30 Park Street, is one of northern New England's finest resources for genealogical research. Stop in soon and try out the CCTV machine as you investigate your family history or your town's past. For more information call (603) 228-6688 or visit the Society online at [www.nhhistory.org](http://www.nhhistory.org).

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N.H. Historical Society

## NEW STAFF AT THE STATE LIBRARY

The N.H. State Library is pleased to announce new staff at the State Library -

**Michael Chaney** - Director, Library & Archives of N.H.'s Political Tradition; **Linda Cilley** - Fiscal Services, Accounting Technician; **Ann Hoey** - Library Development Services, Youth Services Coordinator; **Patricia Lindner** - Network Services, Library Assistant; **Jodi Matisko** - Talking Books, Library Aide; **Cathy Mayo** - Technical Services, Library Technician; **Charles Shipman** - Reference & Information Services, Librarian; **Sarah Wiegard** - Technical Services, Librarian; and **Lorna Zorko** - Electronic & Government Information Services, Systems Development Specialist.

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## KEEP YOUR COMPUTER KEYBOARDS CLEAN

by Pamela Sorensen  
Library Media Specialist  
West High School, Manchester

Library patrons, school children, and library staff members all share use of computer keyboards and mice. Think of how many people a day have their hands on the keyboards and mice in your library. Like other shared items such as phones, fax machines, light switches, doorknobs, and ATM machines, computer keyboards are a harbor for germs and bacteria which cause disease.

Librarians should include preventive measures and regular keyboard cleaning as part of their routine to minimize health risks for both library patrons and staff. Using a plastic keyguard prevents small particles from falling into the keyboard and it's easy to clean. For keyboards without keyguards, regular cleaning with compressed air and rubbing alcohol with cotton squares is recommended. Of course, the best preventive measure for everyone is frequent handwashing. If you're not near a sink, consider keeping an alcohol-based hand gel near your desk.

## **eBOOK PROJECT AT THE STATE LIBRARY**

In the Fall of 2000, the Reference and Information Services Section of the State Library received LSTA funds to introduce electronic book (eBook) reading devices to public libraries in the state. Since then a web page was created to provide information on eBook reading devices, a presentation was made at the NHLA 2000 Fall Conference, devices were purchased in the winter and spring of 2001, and eBook titles were downloaded to the devices in the summer and the fall.

The second phase of the project in which workshops will be held and eBook reading devices will be loaned to public libraries will begin in 2002. The workshop will cover the following topics:

After the workshop, libraries will borrow for 7 weeks the three devices to be used in their library by library staff and by patrons.

The first workshop is scheduled for January 18, 2002, 10:00 to 12:00 p.m. at the State Library with a snow date of January 25, 2002. The workshops will cover the following topics:

- Brief history of the eBook reading devices
- Current status of the eBook reading devices
- Information Sources on eBook reading devices
- Hands on demonstration on the using of an RCA REB 1100 (replaced this Rocket-ebook), RCA REB 1200s (replaced the Softbook) and HP pocket PC using Microsoft's Reading Software

There are spots for 9 libraries to attend the first workshop. Each library will be able to send two representatives to the workshop. Additional workshops will be held every other month (March, May, etc.) until every public library has had an opportunity to attend.

If your library wants to attend the first workshop on January 18, 2002, please reply via e-mail to [mccormick@library.state.nh.us](mailto:mccormick@library.state.nh.us).

On January 2, the names of those libraries that have replied will be placed in a hat and the first nine randomly chosen will be able to attend. Those libraries not chosen will be eligible for the next drawing for the workshop in March.

## **UNIQUE REFERENCE LIBRARIAN POSITION OPEN AT N.H. STATE LIBRARY**

The N.H. State Library seeks an energetic and enthusiastic reference librarian to 1) operate the Best Schools Resource Center and 2) provide reference services for the Family Resource Connection, a special library service assisting New Hampshire families and children.

This varied yet specialized position requires an M.L.S. degree, at least two years reference experience, excellent interpersonal skills and an unwavering customer service commitment. Knowledge, interest and/or experience in education, children's special needs, and website development are also desirable. Salary begins at \$31,102 with seven yearly increases to a maximum of \$42,159.

Applications and further information may be obtained from: Alice Nye, Special Services Section, N.H. State Library, 20 Park Street, Concord, N.H. 03301-6314, tele: (603) 271-7931; 1-800-298-4321 (in-state only), e-mail: [nyea@library.state.nh.us](mailto:nyea@library.state.nh.us)

Review of applications will begin on January 28, 2002.

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## **TELECONFERENCE COMING TO N.H.**

by Thomas A. Ladd  
NHSL Education Coordinator

Four teleconference programs will be available to the New Hampshire library community in early 2002.

The N.H. State Library has contracted with the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, IL for a license to bring more of their excellent series of library education teleconferences to multiple locations in this state.

The upcoming programs are:

***Bringing Order to the Chaos: Using Search Engines Efficiently*** - January 18, 2002 - 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

***Whatever Happened to Carbon Paper?: A Look Toward the Future for Librarians, Library Assistants and the Printed Word*** - March 22, 2002, 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

***Virtual Reference Services...What, Why and How?*** (2 programs) - Part I: February 8, 2002 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. - Part II: April 19, 2002, 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Details for each program are available on the Library Education page of the N.H. State Library website, which may be accessed directly at [www.state.nh.us/nhsl/libed/teleconferences.html](http://www.state.nh.us/nhsl/libed/teleconferences.html).

Each program may be viewed at any of these sites:

**BERLIN** - N.H. Community Technical College; **CLAREMONT** - Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center; **CONCORD** - N.H. Technical Institute; **LACONIA** - Lakes Region General Hospital; **LINCOLN** - Lin-Wood Public School; **LITTLETON** - Littleton Regional Hospital; **NASHUA** - Nashua Public Library; **RINDGE** - Franklin Pierce College Library; and **STRATHAM** - N.H. Community Technical College.

These programs are provided free of charge by the State Library, paid for in part with LSTA funds, and with the cooperation of our host sites, who are donating the use of the facilities. Our thanks to them.

There is no charge to any New Hampshire library staff member or trustee who wishes to attend any teleconference, but **preregistration** is required, so there may be enough seats and handouts available. To pre-register or for more information, please contact Tom Ladd, N.H. State Library Education Coordinator, 1-800-462-1762 (toll-free in New Hampshire) or e-mail [tladd@library.state.nh.us](mailto:tladd@library.state.nh.us).

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## NEW HAMPSHIRE BOOKS COLUMN

by Eleanor O'Donnell

Clark, Charles E., and Elizabeth C. Nordbeck, editors. **GRANITE AND GRACE: ESSAYS CELEBRATING THE TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**. 2001. \$10.00. Order from the New Hampshire Conference United Church of Christ, 314 South Main Street, Concord, N.H. 03301. Tele. (603) 225-6647

These essays examine various aspects of the history of New Hampshire Congregationalist churches, from settlement patterns, denominational development to social aspects and women's leadership. A poem, *Granite and Grass*, by Donald Hall, introduces this collection whose authors includes Ronald Jager and David R. Proper. Appendices include a partial list of local church records and historical sources, and photographs of church buildings. Bibliographical footnotes are provided at the end of each essay.

Daubenspeck, Mary, and Judith G. Russell. **WE HAD EACH OTHER: A SPOKEN HISTORY OF LYME, NEW HAMPSHIRE**. 2001. Order from the Friends of the Lyme Library, P.O. Box 218, Lyme Center, N.H. 03768. \$14.00; plus \$3.00 S&H first book, \$1.25 each additional book. ISBN 0-9705498-0-6

A group of citizens set out to record the stories of about two dozen of Lyme's elders. This oral history is the result, and shares their view of early-to-mid twentieth century history - personal, local, national.

Gardner, Kevin. **THE GRANITE KISS: TRADITIONS AND TECHNIQUES OF BUILDING NEW ENGLAND STONE WALLS**. Countrymen Press. 2001. \$27.95 ISBN 0-88150-506-4

Gardner brings 25 years of experience in building, restoring and repairing traditional New England style dry stone walls into this literate primer of the fundamentals of building with stone. The author is a writer and producer for New Hampshire Public Radio.

Goetz, Peggy & Brian, with June Meyer Newland. **THE ADVENTURE OF TWO LIFETIMES**. Anacus Press. 2001. \$15.95. ISBN 0-933855-23-0

In 1956 June Meyer, with a girlfriend, cycled from New York to California. Forty years later her daughter and husband cycled the same route. This book tells the story of both these trips, and the people they met along the way. The authors presently reside in New Hampshire.

Jones, Barbara (Bullock). **REV. SAMUEL MACCLINTOCK'S JOURNAL, 1760 AND NAMES OF MEN IN COL. GOFFE'S REGIMENT**. Crown Point Press Association, Inc., and Old Fort No. 4 Association. 2001. \$10.00, plus S&H \$4.43. Purchase from Fort at No. 4, P.O. Box 1336, Charlestown, N.H. 03603-1336.

Updated from 1972 edition, with added material, footnotes, 3 maps and bibliographies. Colonel John Goffe and his men from the area around what was to become Manchester marched west to No. 4 (Charlestown) to complete the Crown Point Road. The Rev. Samuel McClintock of Greenland kept a journal on the campaign May through August 1760, the last year of the French and Indian War. This booklet includes the names of the soldiers with service as recorded in Adj. Sam Hobart's Orderly Book.

Kumin, Maxine. **THE LONG MARRIAGE, POEMS.** Norton. 2001. \$21.00. ISBN 0-393-04351-7

Themes of loyalty, longevity and recovery appear in this new collection by New Hampshire poet, Maxine Kumin.

Lane, Lea. **UNOFFICIAL GUIDE TO BED & BREAKFASTS IN NEW ENGLAND.** IDG Books. 2000. \$16.95. ISBN 0-02-863074-2

This guidebook provides profiles and evaluations of 300 top inns and B&B's in all price categories, including objective ratings and rankings. Identifies pet- and kid-friendly places, and recommends the best rooms.

Marvel, William. **A PLACE CALLED APPOMATOX.** University of North Carolina Press. 2000. \$34.95 ISBN 0-8078-2568-9

Marvel says to tell the story of the Appomattox Court House is to tell the history of the South in the Civil War. He draws on original documents, diaries and letters composed as the events unfolded. The author is a New Hampshire resident.

Monkman, Jerry and Marcy. **DISCOVER THE WHITE MOUNTAINS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.** Appalachian Mountain Club Books. 2001. \$15.95 ISBN 1-878239-88-0

This guidebook contains descriptions for 30 hikes, 20 bike trips, and 11 quiet- and whitewater paddling trips, including level of difficulty, distance, elevation, trip time, and handy trip maps.

Rogers, Lura, J., and Barbara Radcliffe Rogers. **FUN WITH THE FAMILY IN VERMONT AND NEW HAMPSHIRE.** Globe Pequot Press. 2001. \$12.95 ISBN 0-7627-0929-4

An ideal guidebook for those parents looking for things to see and do to keep the kids busy and happy for an hour, a day or a weekend. Provides information on family attractions, detailed maps, age-appropriate guidelines, kid-friendly restaurants and places to stay.

Sargent, William. **A YEAR IN THE NOTCH: EXPLORING THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE WHITE MOUNTAINS.** University Press of New England. 2001. \$29.95. ISBN 1-58465-011-7

Through words and photographs, the author investigates the geology, ecology, and natural history of the White Mountains in these reminiscences of a year spent exploring Northern New England.

Simic, Charles. **NIGHT PICNIC: POEMS.** Harcourt. 2001. \$23.00 ISBN 0-15-1006300-X

This new collection of poems evokes various settings and images from New York City to small New England towns.

Smith, Steven D. **SNOWSHOE HIKES IN THE WHITE MOUNTAINS.** Bondcliff Books. 2000. \$19.95. ISBN 1-931271-00-3

The first guide to focus on snowshoeing opportunities in the White Mountains describes over 100 day trips for snowshoers of all abilities. Includes tips on gear, clothing, weather, snow conditions, techniques and winter safety.

Sulloway, Alvah W. **ON THEIR OWN: THREE NEW HAMPSHIRE SCHOLARS CHRONICLE THEIR ADVENTURES ABROAD.** Published for the New Hampshire Historical Society by Phoenix Publishing. 2001. \$35.00 ISBN 0-9146-59-89-8

Three generations of Alvah Sulloway's family kept daily journals of their journeys abroad in pursuit of knowledge. The editor's uncle, William Wentworth Thayer, spent two years at Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1905-1907; his son, Frank Jones Sulloway, went to the Galapagos Islands in 1970 to take a new look at what Darwin found there in 1835; the editor traveled on sabbatical to Cambridge, England, and the European continent in 1964. The travelers ended up in situations very different from what they expected, as chronicled in this compilation of their journals.

Van Hazinga, Cynthia. **HISTORY OF HILLSBOROUGH, NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1960-2000: UPPER VILLAGE, LOWER VILLAGE, HILLSBOROUGH CENTER, AND BRIDGE: THE STORY OF A NEW HAMPSHIRE TOWN.** Peter E. Randall Publisher. 2001. \$25.00. Available from Fuller Public Library, contact Tammy McClure, (603) 464-3595.

History of the town in the latter half of the 20th century captures the struggle of a mill town facing the problems of growth and development and trying to preserve its character. Includes the fight between the townspeople and the federal government who wanted to turn the town into a nuclear waste dump.

**WALKING TO WINDWARD: POETS OF NEW ENGLAND.** Oyster River Press, 20 Riverview Road, Durham, N.H. 03824. 2001. \$135.00 for 4 volume boxed set, or \$35.00 each volume.

This personalized collection of poems published by the Oyster River Press is arranged in 4 boxed sets, each volume comprising of 5 or 6 chapbooks. The volumes are entitled: *I hear America singing*, *Sometimes it troubles me*; *A Book of hours*; *Invocation*; *Sightings*. Written by contemporary New England poets, such as Robert Dunn, Catherine O'Brian, Julia Older, Sidney Hall, Jr., and Jean Pedrick, the poems have a variety of styles and voices and are relevant to today.

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## HOW IS YOUR COLLECTION OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS?

by Ann Hoey  
Youth Services Coordinator  
N.H. State Library

In this electronic age, books still play a critical role, especially in the lives of children. Research demonstrates that children as young as infants benefit from being read aloud to by parents and caregivers. Hearing nursery rhymes and sharing picture books allow young children to become engaged in the process of language acquisition and the development of reading skills. Public libraries with a vibrant children's collection offer their patrons a wealth of treasures.

For small, rural libraries wishing to improve their children's collection, two grants may offer some help. The Children's Literacy Foundation ([www.clifonline.org/](http://www.clifonline.org/)) and the Libri Foundation ([www.librifoundation.org](http://www.librifoundation.org)) both award grants to public libraries in the form of a donation of new children's books. If your library meets the necessary criteria, you may be eligible to receive one or both of these grants.

Whether or not you develop your children's collection with the help of grant money, you can work to build a high quality selection of children's materials. Weeding is essential. It may be time to rid the shelves of outdated, unused materials that are taking up valuable space and disguising the need for current, attractive titles. Selection tools are available in many forms from patron requests to journal reviews to bestseller lists on Amazon. The N.H. State Library provides a Youth Services webpage at [www.state.nh.us/nhsl/ldss/RGyouthservices.html](http://www.state.nh.us/nhsl/ldss/RGyouthservices.html), which includes information about collection development. Also, as the Youth Services Coordinator, I am available for help at any time.

So, in this New Year ahead, let's continue to advocate for the development of children's book collections in our libraries. Happy Reading!

## NEW LIS MATERIALS AT THE STATE LIBRARY

These items have been added to the shelves of the Library and Information Science Collection. They are available to borrow through interlibrary loan by contacting the Circulation Department at 271-2616.

American Library Association. Library Administration & Management Association. *Building blocks for planning functional library space*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2001.

Berner, Andrew and Guy St. Clair. *The best of OPL: five years of The One-Person-Library*. Washington, D.C.: Special Libraries Association, 1990.

Celano, Donna. *The role of public libraries in children's literacy development*. Pennsylvania Library Association. Harrisburg, PA: Pennsylvania Dept. of Education, 2001.

Charles, John. *The mystery readers' advisory: the librarian's clues to murder and mayhem*. Chicago: ALA, 2002.

Cho, Christina. *Internet filters: a public policy report*. New York: Free Expression Policy Project, National Coalition Against Censorship, 2001.

CORC: *new tools and possibilities for cooperative electronic resource description*. Edited by Karen Calhoun. NY: Haworth Information Press, 2001.

Eaglen, Audrey. *Buying books: a how to do it manual for librarian*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. NY: Neal-Schuman, 2000.

Ferl, Terry Ellen. *Subject cataloging a how-to-do-it workbook*. NY: Neal-Schuman. 1991.

Hernon, Peter. *An action plan for outcomes assessment in your library*. Chicago: ALA, 2002.

Howden, Norman. *Buying and maintaining personal computers: a how-to-do-it manual for librarians*. NY: Neal-Schuman, 2000.

Job, Amy G. *Now what do I do?: things they never taught in library school: a book of case studies*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2001.

Lavender, Kenneth. *Book repair: a how-to-do-it manual*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. NY: Neal-Schuman, 2001.

Lear, Brett W. *Adult programs in the library*. Chicago: ALA, 2002.

*The map library in the new millennium*. Edited by R.B. Parry. Chicago: ALA, 2001.

Mortimor, Mary. *Learn descriptive cataloging*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2001.

*Staff development a practical guide*. Prepared by the Staff Development Committee, Human Resources Section, Library Administration and Management Association. Chicago: ALA, 2001.

Steels, Victoria. *Becoming a fundraiser: the principles and practice of library development*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Chicago: ALA, 2000.

Wagner, Patricia. *Everyday leadership* [sound recording]. Denver: Pattern Research, 1999.

Wagner, Patricia. *The Bloomsbury Review booklovers guide: a collection of tips, techniques, anecdotes, controversies and suggestions for the home library*. Denver, CO: Bloomsbury Review, 1996.

UCITA: *a guide to understanding and action*. 2000.

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## DISPOSITION OF STATE DOCUMENTS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

There are a number of New Hampshire state publications that were or are being sent free to every public library in the state. As the amount of space available for them decreases, questions on dispositions are more and more frequent. A list of publications and what may be done with them can be found on the State Library website. This does not apply to any library that is designated a depository library.

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## HOW NOT TO LIE WITH STATISTICS

by Sue Palmatier, NH State Library  
State Data Coordinator

There are lots of ways to lie with statistics:

- forget to count every ILL transaction or every person who attends a program;
- guess how many reference questions have been answered or how many people have entered the library;
- leave blanks on the N.H. Public Library Annual Report.

All of these methods call for estimates - on your part, on my part, or on the part of statisticians at the U.S. Census Bureau.

Estimates that you make are the most likely to be at least close to accurate, since you know your library and your patrons well. Estimates that I make are likely to be less accurate, since I base them on last year's figures - if I have them - and on whatever broad or skimpy knowledge I have of your library. Estimates that Census makes are the least likely to be anywhere near accurate, since they're based solely on statistical probabilities; they don't take into account the 6-inch snowfall that kept people away from Stephen King's appear-

ance at your library, or the flood that wiped out the senior citizen housing next door and sent some of your best borrowers to other towns to live.

So...how can you prevent prevaricating with statistics?

- **COUNT.** Count every person, every item, every transaction, every square foot, every dollar.
- **SAMPLE.** You can conscientiously count the following statistics during an "average" week in April and/or October: the library's schedule and hours open (Q. 13 and 14); library visit (Q. 15a); reference questions (Q. 25); volunteer hours (Q. 58); and users of electronic resources (Q. 69). After counting, multiply by 26 or 52 (depending on whether or not you used a week in both April and October) to get the yearly total if that's what the question calls for.
- **ESTIMATE.** If all else fails, make your best estimate; it's better than having someone outside your library fill in the blanks. Census doesn't even call what they do "estimating"; they call it "imputing" (yes, that's with an "m" and the "u" pronounced as "you"), which according to Webster's means giving responsibility - or blame - to someone else, often falsely or unjustly. Do you really want the Census Bureau employees crediting you with statistics that they created?

But, you ask, do statistics really matter in the long run? We fill out the Public Library Annual Report, send it to the State Library, and everyone forgets it until next year.

Library statistics do matter. They matter when you're thinking about a budget increase for more staff or bigger collections; they matter when you're deciding to automate your catalog and circulation; they matter when you're establishing policies for Internet use or community room occupancy; they matter when you're planning a renovation, an expansion, or a new building.

And your statistics - accurate and timely - matter not just to your library and your community, but to other libraries within New Hampshire and throughout the country. Librarians and trustees in 49 other states, five territories, and the District of Columbia are looking at your statistics on a web site called *Public Library Peer Comparison Tool* -

<http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/libraries/publicpeer/>. Using one or more variables, any public library in the United States or beyond can compare itself with one or more other libraries that participate in the Federal/State Cooperative System for Public Library Data. Within the last three years, Pennsylvania used data from the Peer Comparison Tool to successfully upgrade libraries statewide through increased state aid and legislative



support.

So statistics matter. Be good to yourself and your colleagues by submitting complete and accurate figures on time. Then sit back and have a glass of eggnog, a cup of coffee, a mug of herbal tea, or a nice, relaxing nap. After all, the N.H. Public Library Annual Report won't be back for another year.

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## LIBRARY COMPARISON SITE

The National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES) has updated the Library Peer Comparison Tool site on the Web at [nces.ed.gov/surveys/libraries/liblocator/library.asp](http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/libraries/liblocator/library.asp). The information provides a way for library directors and others with an interest to see how their library data matches up with other libraries. The searches can be limited to specific states, or the comparisons can be made on any of the data elements that the libraries have been submitting for the past 11 years as part of the FSCS, so searchers can call up data about libraries with similar budgets, populations, collection sizes, and so on. Be advised that the Peer Comparison Tool works best using the Internet Explorer web browser.

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## EARLY NEW HAMPSHIRE TOWN RECORDS AS A SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS

by Edward F. Holden, Genealogist  
N.H. State Library

The State Library's collection of *Early New Hampshire Town Records*, plus its index is an important resource for researching families who lived in the Granite State more than a century and a half ago. Information from these microfilmed records is readily available by phone, fax, e-mail, and traditional mail as well by visiting the library's Genealogy and Local History Room in Concord. They can also be obtained through the Mormon Church's worldwide Family History Center.

The key to the myriad of facts contained in the thousands of pages in this collection is the microfilmed index, which is arranged alphabetically by surname. Some, but by no means all of the types of information found in these films are vital records, tax records, listings of residents by districts within a town, offices to which men were elected, and town meeting minutes. Unfortunately, except for births and marriages the index does not provide any clues about the nature of the entries to which it refers only by page number. Some

death records do appear in the town records, but they are not indexed.

A caveat: many patrons who approach this collection anticipating it as the nirvana of early New Hampshire vital records are disillusioned. Some births and marriages can be found therein, but several years of staff experience with data in this collection indicate the odds of finding records of births and marriages are about four or five to one. Nevertheless, on many occasions these microfilms do yield the previously elusive date and place for a New Hampshire birth or marriage which occurred prior to about 1840.

To the experienced researcher these records can be revealing in other aspects. A person's changing economic status can be traced by following his tax assessments from year to year. A warning out of town notice often includes not only the name of the family head, but also lists other members of the family, and indicates their previous residence. When minors are involved these warning notices usually state the names and ages of those young family members.

An illustration of the manner in which these records can be genealogically useful is a case in which tax records narrowed the time frame in which the death of a patron's ancestor occurred. According to Hadley's *History of Goffstown [1924]* Captain Joshua Martin died about 1796. However, his name appears in the 1800 census of Goffstown, but not in the 1810 census. In the town records his name is listed on every Goffstown tax list from 1800 to 1809 inclusive. On the 1810 Goffstown tax list there is an entry for "Captain Joshua Martin's widow." While this information does not provide the exact date of Joshua Martin's death, it does provide much more accurate information than either the town history or the census provide.

The misleading title, *Every Name Index* is sometimes applied to the WPA project, which generated the alphabetical finding aid for these town records. The correct designation for this most useful guide is *The Index to Early New Hampshire Town Records*, because by no stretch of a wishful imagination does it include the name of every New Hampshire resident during the two centuries it covers. The records of eighteen towns including the seminal communities of Exeter and Dover were not included due to reasons for which no documentation has been found. These eighteen unindexed towns are identified in a loose leaf binder with the cumbersome title, *Catalog of Ancient Towns, Parishes, and Other Divisions of the State as Recorded in the Office of the Secretary of State*, which is located with the file cabinet which houses the microfilmed records that are indexed.

In addition to the missing town records it is obvious the minority populations were woefully under-represented. Only 54 slaves and 4 Indians are listed for the entire two centuries these records encompass, yet according to the 1790 census the slave population in New Hampshire in that year alone was 158. In the same census the count in the category, "All other free persons," some of whom were classified as colored, was 628.

In conclusion it should be emphasized that despite the shortcomings of *The Early New Hampshire Town Records*, the family historian who ignores this source of genealogical data does so at his or her own risk. Used intelligently this collection of microfilms may very well provide information that cannot be found in any other source.

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## LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

### HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY CELEBRATES CONSTRUCTION OF CILLEY ROOM

by Diane Ames, Secretary  
Board of Library Trustees

It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon when nearly 100 family, friends, conservationists, librarians and colleagues of Herb Cilley gathered to celebrate the newly completed Anne and Herb Cilley Room at the Hill Public Library in Center Strafford. Herb Cilley, sometimes known as the "Loon Ranger", achieved national recognition for his role as guardian of the one-time endangered common loon. In 1991 Herb Cilley received the first lifetime-achievement award ever granted by the North American Loon Fund. He was named "Outstanding Friend of the Loon."

With a generous donation, Anne and Herb Cilley helped finance the building of a new wing for the Hill Library. Later Mr. Cilley gave the library his extensive collection of ornithological resources - books, magazines, and journals. Richard Moore, President of the N.H. Audubon Society, commented that the centerpiece of the valuable collection is a complete set of *Birds of North America*. Among ornithologists these volumes are considered the most important resources in the study and identification of North American birds. In a letter, Senator Bob Smith wrote that Herb Cilley's tireless work on behalf of loons and conservation has ben-

efited the local community, state and nation. Senator Smith stated that he was proud to represent people like Anne and Herb Cilley.

Steve Steinmuller, a neighbor and long-time friend spoke about how, at Bow Lake in Strafford, Mr. Cilley created a community culture of loon conservations primarily through education of people in the local area. Harry Vogel, Director of the New Hampshire Loon Preservation Committee, said Herb Cilley was instrumental in increasing the loon population on several lakes in the state.

Ken Berry, president of the Strafford Library Association introduced the staff and trustees. He described the steps taken over time involved with constructing the new wing. Pamela Marks, a trustee of the library, thanked the building committee and the many people who were involved with the planning, designing, and building of the addition. She named several individual and cooperative donors and contractors who contributed materials and labor. The result of many months of effort is a large bright room that not only houses the Anne and Herb Cilley collection, but other resources as well. The room is already being used for meetings and by groups of children in reading programs.

On exhibit throughout the library were several artistic items created by Strafford artists. Another eye-catching display consisted of over 100 small flags representing states and countries from visitors who have come to Bow Lake to be passengers in Herb Cilley's loon-observation boat, the Ginny B.

Michael York, New Hampshire State Librarian, summarized the feelings of most people attending the celebration. He said that while e-communications appear to be dominating the media, books and libraries continue to play important roles as resources in the community.

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## **PEMBROKE LIBRARY BREAKING GROUND**

by Melinda Baxter, Director

The Trustees and the Building Committee of the Pembroke Town Library plan to break ground in the Spring of 2002 for the new library building! At a special town meeting in April 2001, residents voted to fund \$800,000 of the cost (\$400,000 from the town surplus and \$400,000 from taxes). We have bought the property adjacent to Pembroke Town Hall and have enough money now to build the building. Our dedicated Fund-Raising Committee is committed to raise 1/3 of the project, \$433,000. To date we have raised approximately \$136,500 and have approximately \$296,500 left to raise. These remaining funds will be for interior furnishings and landscaping. We have sent out grant applications and a general mailing to all town citizens for funds. We also have numerous fall fund-raisers planned, including an antique appraisal program, an auction, a Walk-A-Thon and more!

The Building Committee for the new Pembroke Town Library meets frequently with our architect, Peter Tennant. We are currently reviewing proposals from companies that provide construction management. The company chosen will oversee the entire project, working with the architect, Building Committee and Trustees. This is all very exciting! We hope to move into our new library in late Fall 2002!

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## **NESMITH LIBRARY IN WINDHAM**

by John Barrett, Director

The library's new Universal Resource Locator (URL) or website address is now official - [www.nesmithlibrary.org](http://www.nesmithlibrary.org) - to get to the Nesmith Library online. You will find plenty of news and information such as genealogy resources, business resources, New Hampshire government, Windham government and schools, favorite web sites, recommended search engines, online databases and much, much more. Reference Librarian Lois Freeston is also the library's webmaster. Lois uses her knowledge and skills to maintain the library's homepage with current, accurate, and useful information. One of the goals at Nesmith is to bring the library closer to you. Remote access is one means of doing that. From your home or office we want you to be able to access the library's catalog, link to various electronic resources, and learn more about library programs and events. We hope having a URL that is easy to remember will make it easier to find us on the World

Wide Web. In the coming year, we will be enhancing our library homepage to make it even better. We would be glad to receive your comments and suggestions. So, go ahead and check out our library at today at [www.nesmithlibrary.org](http://www.nesmithlibrary.org).

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## **CIPA TRIAL DATE RESCHEDULED**

The trial date for ALA's legal challenge to the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) has been rescheduled for February 14<sup>th</sup>, the federal government sought an extension. The case will be heard in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Plaintiffs in the suit include libraries, library users, state library associations, and the Freedom to Read Foundation. The American Civil Liberties Union has filed a similar challenge; the two cases have been consolidated by the court and will be heard together. The bill requires libraries to adopt acceptable-use policies accompanied by a "safety technology" that would block access to material deemed "harmful for minors." CIPA mandates the use of blocking technology for public libraries that seek Universal Service discounts for Internet access, Internet service, or internal connections or that seek LSTA funds to purchase computers for Internet access or pay for Internet access.

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State of New Hampshire  
DIVISION OF LIBRARIES  
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-- Editorial Policy --

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